

IN THE CLAIMS

Amend the claims as indicated below by the markings.

Add new claims 46 – 48 as set forth below.

Claims 1 - 21 (Cancelled)

22. (Currently Amended) A method for transmission of data from a computer system that is operated with a Windows or windows-like operating system to an output device, comprising the steps of:

generating a master document;

logically linking a plurality of auxiliary documents with the master document by forming reference indices;

sending the data of the auxiliary documents to the output device separated from data of the master document;

joining the data of the auxiliary documents with the data of the master document in the output device upon employment of the reference indices;

generating a data stream in an enhanced metafile format;

calling a converter unit by a print processor, said converter converting said enhanced metafile format into a print data format;

controlling a conversion by said converter unit by predetermined parameters input via an input module;

generating a print job from an application program running on a computer system that is operated with a Windows or windows-like operating system, said step of generating including:

calling a printer driver first,

setting settings of the appertaining printer supported by the called printer driver job-specifically,

enabling the print job, as a result whereof the data of at least one of the master document and of the auxiliary documents are generated,

carrying out a check in a check step to see whether the respectively generated output format corresponds to a standard prescribed by the operating system,

supplying the data, when there is correspondence, to a print processor located in a spooler and, when non-correspondence is found in the check step, are converted by an operating system-specific converter unit into an intermediate data stream that is further-processed via various output channels.

23. (Original) A method as claimed in claim 22, further comprising the step of: storing the data of the auxiliary documents in the output device.

24. (Original) A method as claimed in claim 22, further comprising the step of: joining the data of the master document with the data of the auxiliary documents for output of individual documents.

25. (Currently Amended) A method as claimed in claim 22, further comprising the step of: attaching the auxiliary documents to at least one predetermined region ~~arbitrary regions~~ of the first document at a beginning of the output.

26. (Original) A method as claimed in claim 22, further comprising the step of: controlling the referencing in a windows systems environment or in a windows-like system environment via data that are input via a user interface.

27. (Original) A method as claimed in claim 26, whereby the referencing ensues in a converter unit that converts an enhanced metafile data stream into a print data stream of a printer language.

28. (Original) A method as claimed in claim 26, whereby the converter unit collaborates with a print processor and a port monitor of a spooler.

29. (Currently Amended) A method as claimed in claim 22, further comprising the step of: specifying an ~~the~~ area of the master document wherein a respective auxiliary document is linked with the master document.

30. (Original) A method as claimed in claim 29, wherein said specifying step specifies a page region.

31. (Original) A method as claimed in claim 22, further comprising the step of: indicating whether an auxiliary document is one of an overlay and a watermark document.

32. (Currently Amended) A method as claimed in claim 22, wherein at least one of said plurality of [[an]] auxiliary documents ~~document~~ is a macro datafile.

33. (Original) A method as claimed in claim 22, wherein said output device is a printer device.

34. (Original) A method as claimed in claim 22, further comprising the step of: transmitting an auxiliary document to the output device in the PCL print data language.

35. (Original) A method as claimed in claim 22, further comprising the step of: transmitting an auxiliary document to the output device in the PostScript print data language.

36. (Original) A method as claimed in claim 22, further comprising the step of: transmitting an auxiliary document to the output device in the IPDS print data language.

37. (Original) A method as claimed in claim 22, further comprising the step of: transmitting an auxiliary document to the output device in the LCDS print data language.

38. (Currently Amended) A method as claimed in claim 22, wherein at least one of said plurality of [[an]] auxiliary documents ~~document~~ contains graphics information.

39. (Original) A method as claimed in claim 38, wherein said graphics information is one of an image datafile and a diagram.

40.(Currently Amended) A method for transmission of data from a computer system [[that]] to an output device, comprising the steps of:
providing a master document having a variable data area and a static data area;
marking the variable data area;
inserting variable data into the variable data area, as a result whereof a serial data stream with individual documents having variable data and static data arises;

wherein said step of providing the master document and said step of marking and said step of inserting the variable data are performed within a computer system; separating the variable data from the serial data stream from the static data on a basis of the marking; transmitting the variable data separated from the static data from the first individual document to the output device; storing the static data of the first individual document in the output device; the static data of following individual documents are not transmitted to the output device; and joining the variable data in turn with the stored static data individual document by individual document in the output device, wherein said steps of storing and joining are performed within an output device.

41. (Original) A method as claimed in claim 40, wherein said marking step of the variable data region ensues by a visually perceptible identification.

42. (Original) A method according to claim 40, wherein said marking step of the variable data region ensues chromatically.

43. (Previously Presented) A computer program product including a computer program on a computer readable medium, comprising:
elements for implementation of a method for transmission of data from a computer system that is operated with a Windows or windows-like operating system to an output device,
including:

generating a master document;
logically linking a plurality of auxiliary documents with the master document by forming reference indices;
sending the data of the auxiliary documents to the output device separated from data of the master document;
joining the data of the auxiliary documents with the data of the master document in the output device upon employment of the reference indices;

generating a print job from an application program including:
calling a printer driver first,
setting settings of the appertaining printer supported by the called printer driver job-specifically,
enabling the print job, as a result whereof the data of at least one of the master document and of the auxiliary documents are generated,
carrying out a check in a check step to see whether the respectively generated output format corresponds to a standard prescribed by the operating system,
supplying the data, when there is correspondence, to a print processor located in a spooler and, when non-correspondence is found in the check step, are converted by an operating system-specific converter unit into an intermediate data stream that is further-processed via various output channels.

44. (Original) A system including at least one computer for implementation of a method for transmission of data from a computer system that is operated with a Windows or windows-like operating system to an output device, comprising the steps of:
generating a master document;
logically linking a plurality of auxiliary documents with the master document by forming reference indices;
sending the data of the auxiliary documents to the output device separated from data of the master document;
joining the data of the auxiliary documents with the data of the master document in the output device upon employment of the reference indices;
generating a print job from an application program including:
calling a printer driver first,
setting settings of the appertaining printer supported by the called printer driver job-specifically,
enabling the print job, as a result whereof the data of at least one of the master document and of the auxiliary documents are generated,

carrying out a check in a check step to see whether the respectively generated output format corresponds to a standard prescribed by the operating system, supplying the data, when there is correspondence, to a print processor located in a spooler and, when non-correspondence is found in the check step, are converted by an operating system-specific converter unit into an intermediate data stream that is further-processed via various output channels.

45. (Previously Presented) A method for transmission of data from a computer system that is operated with a Windows or windows-like operating system to an output device, comprising the steps of:
generating a master document;
logically linking a plurality of auxiliary documents with the master document by forming reference indices;
sending the data of the auxiliary documents to the output device separated from data of the master document;
joining the data of the auxiliary documents with the data of the master document in the output device upon employment of the reference indices;
generating a data stream in an enhanced metafile format;
calling a converter unit by a print processor, said converter converting said enhanced metafile format into a print data format;
controlling a conversion by said converter by predetermined parameters input via an input module;
generating a print job from an application program including:
calling a printer driver first,
setting settings of the appertaining printer supported by the called printer driver job- specifically,
enabling the print job, as a result whereof the data of at least one of the master document and of the auxiliary documents are generated,

carrying out a check in a check step to see whether the respectively generated output format corresponds to a standard prescribed by the operating system, supplying the data, when there is correspondence, to a print processor located in a spooler.

46. (New) A method for printing a document, comprising the steps of:
outputting a document file for printing from an application running in a Windows or windows-like environment;
calling a print driver for the document file, said driver outputting the document file in EMF format, said driver being operable to always output documents in EMF format;
transmitting the document file in EMF format to a spool file;
spooling the EMF format document file to a print processor;
transmitting the document file from the print processor to a converter for conversion from EMF format to a raw printer format;
receiving a user input at a user interface;
controlling the conversion from EMF format to the raw printer format according to the user input;
outputting the document file in raw printer format to an output device.

47. (New) A method as claimed in claim 46, wherein said raw printer format is PCL format.

48. (New) A method as claimed in claim 46, wherein said output device includes a port monitor and a printer device connected to the port monitor.

IN THE DRAWINGS

Amend Figure 9 as shown on the attached Replacement Sheet. The amended Figure 9 includes a change in the reference character of the “EPE Print Processor” from 56 to 62. Approval of the drawing change is hereby requested.